

[Skip to main content](#)

[en](#)

Select your language

Close

- [bg](#)
- [español](#)
- [cs](#)
- [da](#)
- [de](#)
- [et](#)
- [el](#)
- [en](#)
- [fr](#)
- [ga](#)
- [hr](#)
- [it](#)
- [lv](#)
- [lt](#)
- [hu](#)
- [mt](#)
- [nl](#)
- [pl](#)
- [pt](#)
- [ro](#)
- [sk](#)
- [sl](#)
- [fi](#)
- [sv](#)

[Search](#)

Search

Public Health

1. [Home](#)
2. Rare diseases and European Reference Networks

## Rare diseases and European Reference Networks

[Rare diseases](#)

Between 27 and 36 million people in the EU live with a rare disease. There are between 6 000 and 8 000 distinct rare diseases in the EU.

[European Reference Networks](#)

The European Reference Networks (ERNs) are cross-border networks that bring together European hospital centres of expertise and reference to tackle rare, low prevalence and complex diseases and conditions requiring highly specialised healthcare.

[EU4Health funding](#)

Since its inception, the ERNs have received continuous funding from the Commission.

### Latest updates

- News announcement
- 8 March 2024

[Commission launches joint action with €18 million funding to improve the diagnosis, treatment and care of patients with rare diseases](#)

- 1 min read
- News announcement
- 29 February 2024

[JARDIN kick-off meeting - Rare Diseases in the EU: Joint Action shaping the future of ERNs \(8 March 2024\)](#)

- 1 min read
- News announcement
- 28 February 2024

- 1 min read
- News announcement
- 16 February 2024

- 1 min read

[See all](#)

## Highlights



[ERNs Evaluation](#)



- General publications
- 30 October 2023
- Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety



- Factsheet
- 28 February 2024
- Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety

[Factsheet - EU action on rare diseases: Improving patient access to knowledge, diagnosis and care](#)



[Information video for patients and healthcare professionals](#)

## Events

07Dec2023

- Partner meetings

[Board of Member States on ERNs – Exceptional meeting](#)

24Oct2023

- Partner meetings

[Board of Member States on ERNs – 27th meeting](#)

27Jun2023

- Partner meetings

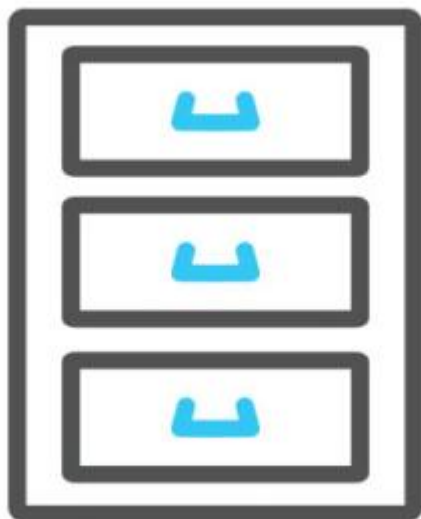
[Board of Member States on ERNs – 26th meeting](#)

05Oct2022

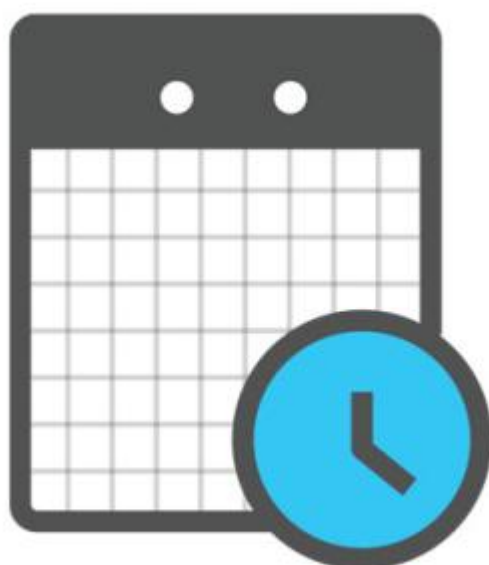
- Partner meetings

[Board of Member States on ERNs – 25th meeting](#)

## Documents



[Key documents](#)



[Events](#)



[Consultations](#)



[Publications](#)



## [Videos](#)

Share this page

## [Public Health](#)

This site is managed by:

Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety

- [Accessibility](#)

Contact us

- [Contact us](#)

Follow us

- [Latest updates](#)
- [EU One Health](#)
- [Health & Food Safety Newsletters](#)

About us

- [Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety](#)

Related sites

- [EU Health Policy Platform](#)
- [Food Safety](#)
- [EU Health Award](#)
- [Contact the European Commission](#)
- [Follow the European Commission on social media](#)
- [Resources for partners](#)
- [Report an IT vulnerability](#)
- [Languages on our websites](#)
- [Cookies](#)
- [Privacy policy](#)
- [Legal notice](#)